



“Churches are more vulnerable to conflict than any other group, community, or organisation in the world”

From a recent Ph.D. thesis

Is this true?



to be one

to pray

to reconcile

CALLED

to grow

to serve

to be Church

to give

to be spirit filled



“Churches are more vulnerable to conflict than any other group, community, or organisation in the world”

From a recent Ph.D. thesis

Is this true?

CALLED to reconcile

In church

1. *What do we fall out about?*
2. *What do we tend to do?*
3. *What should we do?*

Why have the leaders not sorted this? That's what they're there for

That XXX group have left our hall in a mess again!

My mother left those for the church. Who said they could be thrown out?

[No words Just the glare directed at a family with young children as the service begins]

This music group NEVER listens to me, they completely ignore my opinion

What sort of things do we most often argue about in church?

What do we argue about in church?

Most often?

- Music
- Leaders
- Buildings
- Youth

Matthew 18 – Jesus deals with conflict

15 “If your brother or sister sins,[against you go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. 16 But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ 17 If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

18 “Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

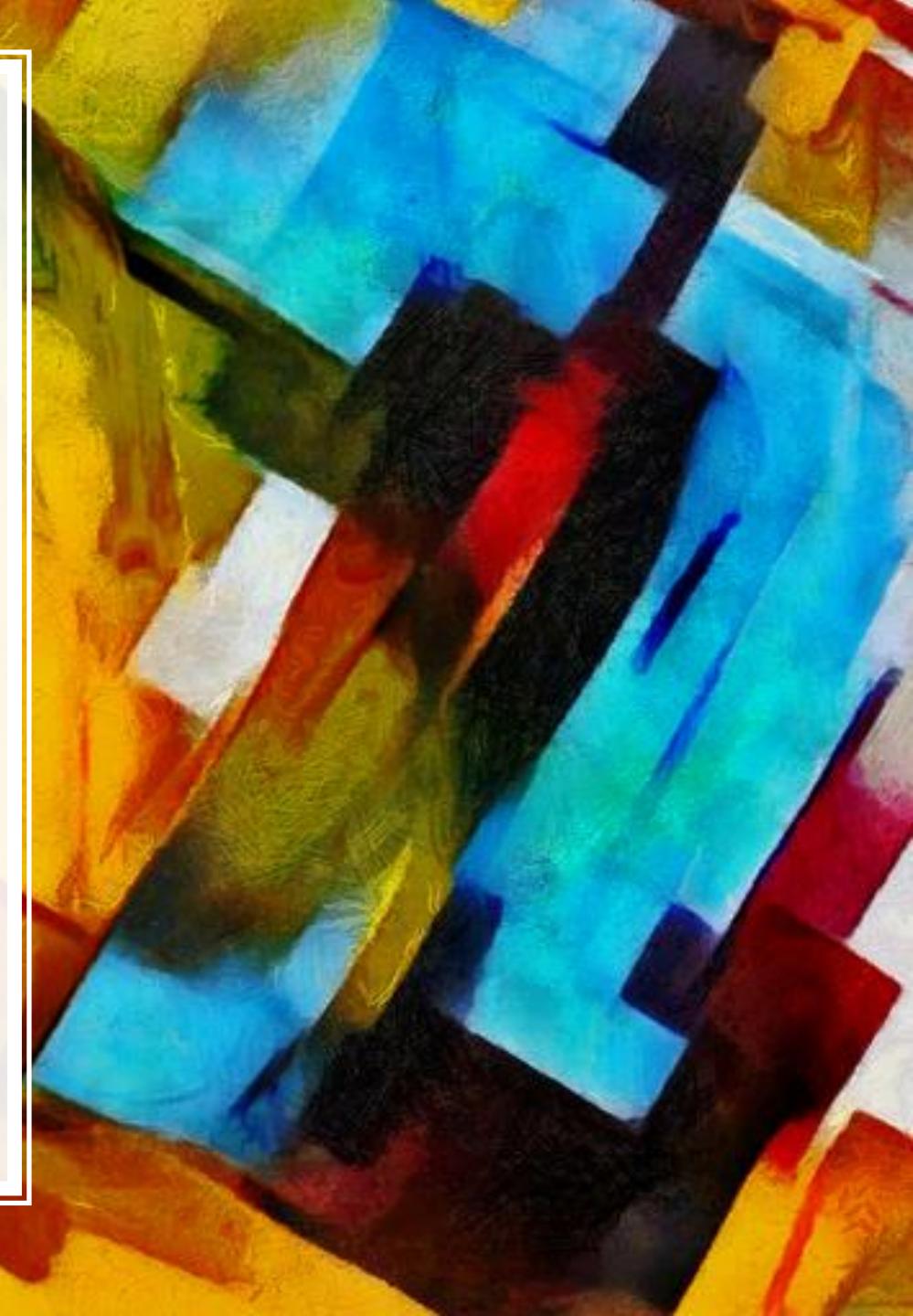
19 “Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”

22 Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times”

.....



Shift the focus from a contest to be won ... to a problem to be solved

- 1. Go to them**
- 2. Only if this fails do we involve others in a measured way**
- 3. In all fails there is a clause to involve the church and “treat them as a tax collector” ...**

CALLED

to grow

to give

to pray

to be Church

to be one

to be spirit filled

to reconcile

to serve

The power of words – from James 3

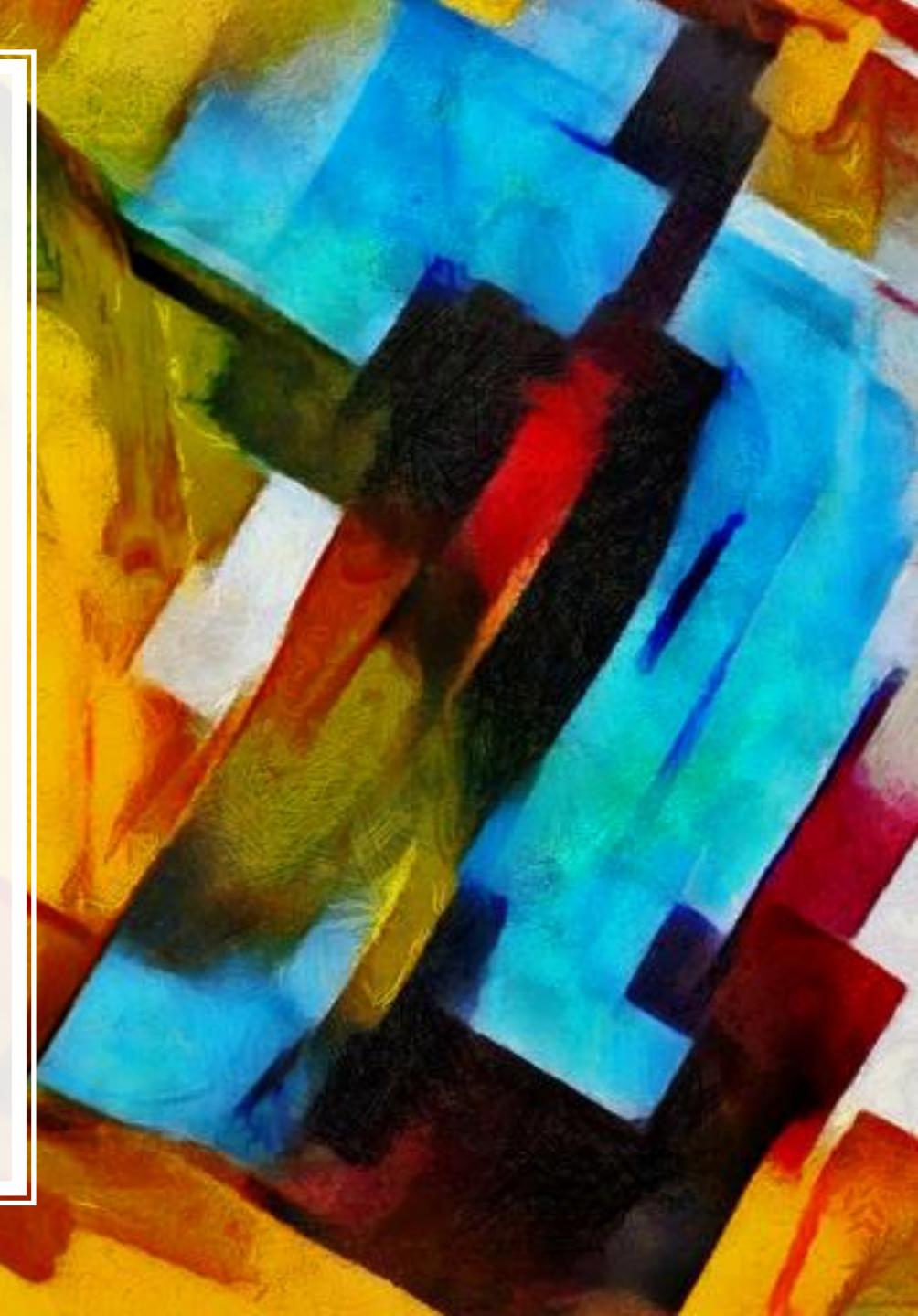
... Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. 6 The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

7 All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, 8 but no human being can tame the tongue

NIV

5-6 It only takes a spark, remember, to set off a forest fire. A careless or wrongly placed word out of your mouth can do that. By our speech we can ruin the world, turn harmony to chaos, throw mud on a reputation, send the whole world up in smoke and go up in smoke with it, smoke right from the pit of hell.

The Message



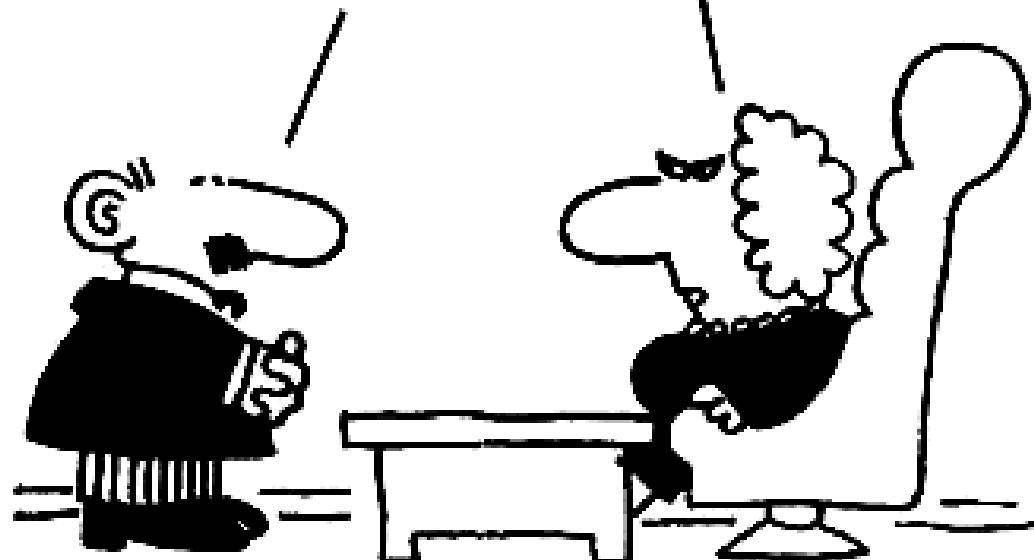


“Disagreement and some level of conflict happens in the normal, healthy course of relationships ... if God wanted us all to agree he wouldn’t have created men and women!”

Colin Moulds, Exec Director of Bridge Builder Ministries

BUT THERE ARE
TWO SIDES TO
EVERY
ARGUMENT!

WELL, I'VE
ALREADY
GIVEN YOU
BOTH!



Search: 0763884

Jantoo cartoons



"Disagreement and some level of conflict happens in the normal, healthy course of relationships ... if God wanted us all to agree he wouldn't have created men and women!"

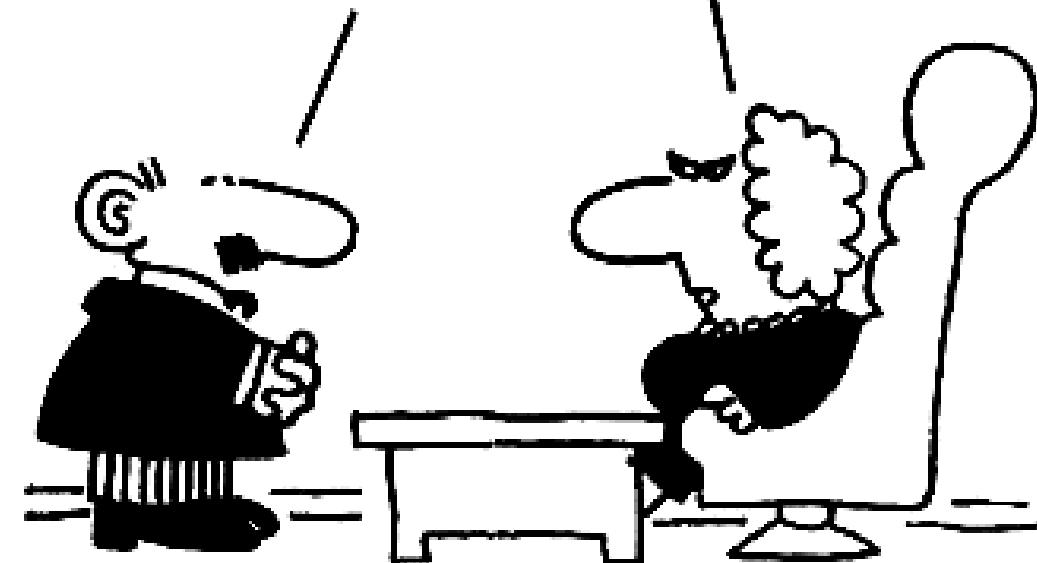
Colin Moulds, Exec Director of Bridge Builder Ministries

"if nothing else, if you find yourself in conflict with someone, be curious. Go and have a conversation".

More in the YouTube Notes

BUT THERE ARE
TWO SIDES TO
EVERY
ARGUMENT!

WELL, I'VE
ALREADY
GIVEN YOU
BOTH!



Search: 0763884

Jantoo cartoons

Soft hearts – and thick skins

- Soft hearts...genuinely caring – sensitive to *their* view
- Thick skins ...we are hard to offend

Internal transformation of our hearts!